

THE MORNING NEWS

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Caya G.F. Betico Croes 111 T. 588-9517 F. 5889518.

Certification program created to elevate the quality of product Aruba

It is a commitment we have to our island



On Monday, October 11, the official certification program was initiated for all those working in the tourism sector. Minister of Labor, Transport and Tourism Otmar Oduber was also present at this unique gathering where for the first time, all who have direct contact with visitors will follow a course on the history, culture, traditions and places of interest of our is-

land.

The course is to make sure everyone can give consistent information to our visitors and so contribute in improving the quality of the Aruba experience.

Chido Henriquez of the Enseñansa pa Empleo (Education for Employment) is the person in charge of this project. He recounts that a year ago, together with

Sjeidy Feliciano of the Aruba Tourism Authority, he visited the Bahamas. There they observed how a similar program was in place, which gave them the idea not to copy the program, but improve upon it.

The visit was the idea of Minister Oduber, who requested them to work on a program to improve Product Aruba. For one year, they worked very hard on the project, with weekly telephone briefings to Minister Oduber on the latest developments. The final goal is to set up a high quality seminar.

According to Sjeidy Feliciano, last month they did a pilot project of the certification program in order to get an idea what needs to be changed in the modules. They are now going to officially start with the program. The modules focus on hospitality, excellence in tourism, sustainability, history and product. The main reason to introduce this program is to insure that all working in the tourism industry are in sync. Anyone else who wishes to participate in the program can do so and so as to also be able to give our visitors valuable information when asked.



This contributes in making every visit to our island an unforgettable experience.

Afterwards Ms. Feliciano handed to Minister Oduber the book, "Mi Compromiso cu Aruba, Programa di Certi-

fication" – "My Commitment to Aruba, Certification Program" and said the book is the results of the efforts of many individuals whose valuable contributions made it possible.

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THE MORNING NEWS Consumer Advocacy

Are you getting the run around and unsatisfactory service?

After all our years on Aruba, as much as we love the island, we must admit there are still companies that promise to stand behind their products and convince consumers to pay a somewhat higher price for purchasing with them, believing they will get conscientious service as part of the package; unfortunately, we all too often find this is not the case. It is, sadly,



a universal situation, and we have noticed many consumer advocacy programs on U.S. TV and other media to assist those that have been frustrated in their efforts to receive customer satisfaction.

THE MORNING NEWS has decided to begin a Consumer Advocacy section to the paper, and we welcome islanders to contact us via e-mail: themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com

@gmail.com to advise us of their personal experiences, which we will investigate and publish, in the hope that those who think they can ignore their unhappy clients with impunity will realize this is not so.

Our first column has to do with Gerry's Refricenter, the agent for LG refrigerators on Aruba.

Continued on page 3

New appeal to release Giordano filed at the Court of First Instances

ORANJESTAD -- On October the 10th law firm LopezLaw entered at the Court of First Instance of Aruba a petition, in which the Judge of Instruction was requested to set client G. Giordano immediately free

from his detention or at least to postpone his detention until eventual sentence against him has been passed after trial.

No date has yet been set for the hearing nor the decision on the request by LopezLaw to

release client Giordano.

Giordano is being held on suspicion of involvement in the presumed death of 35-year-old Robyn Gardner of Frederick, Maryland. Her body has not been found.

garden cafe

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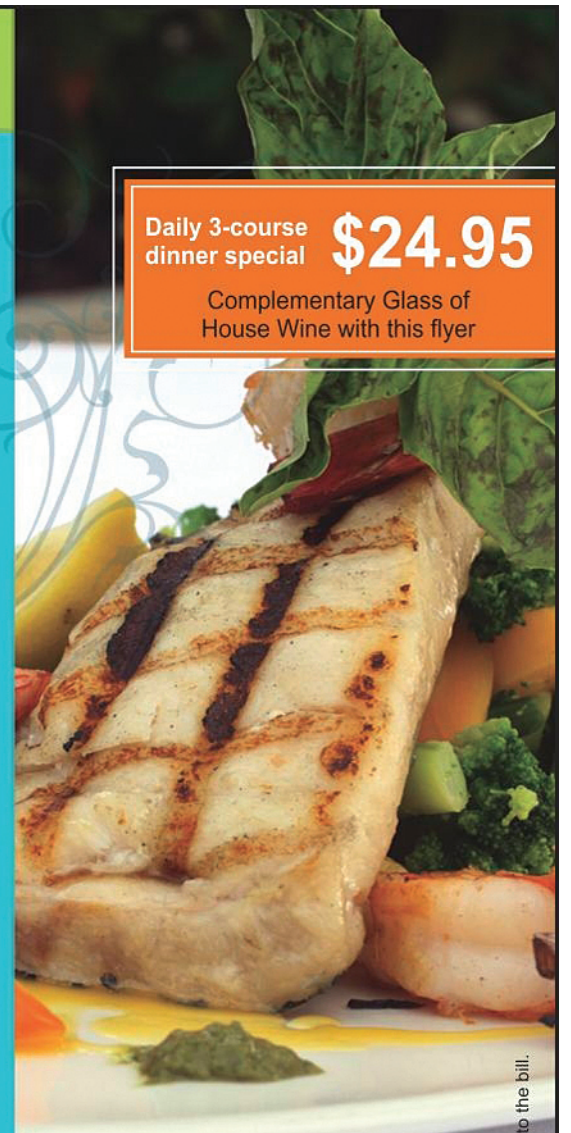
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Are you getting the run around and unsatisfactory service?

Continued from page 2

One of the "best" (most expensive) items, a 3-door refrigerator with icemaker was purchased in late 2008, and before the loan was even paid off it completely broke down and is now the world's biggest doorstop taking up space in the homeowner's kitchen.

Hearing the history, one must seriously question the quality of the LG Brand; it has been troublesome from the day one. The bottom shelf cracked almost immediately, and then broke off. The fridge was still under warranty, and the buyer was told they had to order the entire shelf, but never heard a word from them about it, so decided to just live with it. All the other fancy little doo-dads on the various draws that were

supposed to provide temperature control for fresh vegetables and meats also broke within the first 18 months, and one morning after less than two years of use, the owner came out to find their kitchen full of water because the water feed hose to the icemaker had burst, forcing them to turn off the water to their kitchen. They had to seal off the hose and was reluctant to call for repair from past experience, so gave up on the icemaker.

Finally, after less than 3 years, the refrigerator stopped working completely. A repairman was sent, informing them they have regularly vacuumed the rear of the fridge and dust had collected, clogging the filter. They replaced a filter, and

fixed the icemaker (with the revelation that a burst hose happened with quite some regularity) and the fridge worked for about 3 days before completely giving up. After being informed a new compressor was needed, they gave the go ahead, not caring of the cost, and have been waiting more than two months for its arrival, which from past experience, they believe they have been totally forgotten. Weekly calls to the repair department elicited the same response, "we will call you in a couple of days," but they never do; except to inform them Gerry "would like to give them a loner, but they are all out"!!!!!! So we must assume there are quite a few people without a refrigerator

during this long heat spell!!!

Other repair services were called, but they all stated they do not service LG; owners of this brand must go to the agent, Gerry's.

So months later there is little satisfaction; fortunately a good friend lent a small refrigerator they never use. It is 3 years older than the LG, and works perfectly despite the rear having never been vacuumed. Hmmmmmm. Frigidaire brand, they highly recommend it.

Please send us your stories and contact info if you have



complaints and issues with local vendors, we will see that the word gets out.

by Rosalie Klein



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“Travel Counselors ” of the Netherlands visit Aruba



Recently, renown Dutch travel group “Travel Counselors VIP Famtrip “ accepted an invitation from the Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) to discover Aruba. The members of the group are considers VIPs because their modus operandi is completely different from an average travel agency. Their work system is solely based on their website www.travelcounsellors.nl with which they have direct contact with clients. They also use Twitter and Face Book, providing direct contact with clients either at their home or office which makes bookings more attractive.

Results in the Netherlands

show there is a 7% increase in tour operator's sales while Travel Counselors has shown a 25% increase, proof that the agents work hard and cooperate with other tour operators and independents as well.

The group stayed at the Divi Phoenix and Renaissance Aruba Resort and ATA reps Ricardo Croes and Jaap Ellis were in charge of showing the group Aruba's many tourist attractions. They also visited a number of restaurants for a taste of the diversity of cuisines available on the island.

Photo shows the Travel Counselors VIPs on the beach with Mr. Croes and Mr. Ellis.

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Education for Employment getting deserved attention and outfitted in new facility

Education for Employment (Ensenanza Pa Empleo) began 23 years ago under the current government administration. According to the government, this important organization is set to begin its second life in a brand new format, in a new building and with new energy. During the inauguration of the new facility, the Prime Minister reiterated the value of this organization for the Aruban community. The new facility is located in the Engelandstraat in Oranjestad.

Back in 1988, it was then Minister of Education, dr. Mita Croes who saw the need for such an institution primarily for adults seeking educational formation or retraining.

The refinery had shut down and more than one fourth of the population was out of work. Tourism was also in bad straits. We had to find ways to survive and we concluded that re-education was the way to do it. According to Dr. Croes, "... today we are reaping the fruits of the choices that our people made on various education levels."



Croes recruited Frans Van Drie to head up the project. He told Van Drie, "... you provide the courses and I will provide the funds to make it happen." With partial financial support from the Netherlands Education for Employment saw the light of day. In a very short time scores of Arubans were re-educated professionally.

Today, this organization has grown in leaps and

bounds offering more than 72 different courses with over 70 teachers.

During those years, current Prime Minister Eman was Spokesman for the government under leadership of his brother, Henny Eman. Eman said that he is very pleased that this program gave so many people in our community a second chance through the education obtained in the program.

Government employees have also profited from EPE through taking many courses and upgraded themselves. Prison guards have also participated in various courses. EPE is also currently involved in offering the Aruba Certification Program in conjunction with the government's program for improving the service in our tourism.

The young people who will be part of the Social For-

mation program will also follow specific courses at EPE as part of their educational development.

The director of EPE, Gregory Koolman led the Ministers through the facility to give them a visual presentation of the facilities of the new building.

The building has spacious office rooms for its staff and four large rooms for computer courses, both theoretical and practical classes in computer. There is ample space for the waiters and bartenders' courses.

According to Koolman, EPE is an institution that is an integral part of Aruba. Parents who come to take courses will be setting an example for their children. Thus creating an ambience that will stimulate learning.

The new director also appealed to employers to afford those who took the courses to give them that second chance at employment. This will give value to the investment that these people have made

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

US charges two Iranians in plot to kill Saudi envoy

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US authorities charged two Iranians in a "plot directed by elements of the Iranian government" to kill the Saudi ambassador to the United States as part of a major terror attack.

A criminal complaint charges Manssor Arbabsiar, a 56-year-old naturalized US citizen holding both Iranian and US passports, and Gholam Shakuri, an Iran-based member of Iran's Quds Force, in the plot, the Justice Department said.

The plot called for the assassination of the Saudi envoy in an explosives attack, which could have killed many other

people and would have been just "the opening act" in an attack on US soil, officials said.

Shakuri remains at large. Arbabsiar was arrested on September 29 at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport and made his initial appearance yesterday before a federal court in Manhattan. He faces a maximum potential sentence of life in prison if convicted of all the charges.

"The criminal complaint unsealed today exposes a deadly plot directed by factions of the Iranian government to assassinate a foreign ambassador on US soil with explosives," said Attorney General Eric Holder.

"Through the diligent and coordinated efforts of our law enforcement and intelligence agencies, we were able to disrupt this plot before anyone was harmed. We will continue to investigate this matter vigorously and bring those who have violated any laws to justice."

Holder said the plot was "conceived, sponsored and di-

rected from Iran."

News reports said the plot also included a bomb and subsequent bomb attacks on the Saudi and Israeli embassies in Washington.

The case, called Operation Red Coalition, began in May when an Iranian-American from Corpus Christi, Texas, approached a US informant seeking the help of a Mexican drug cartel to assassinate the Saudi ambassador, according to counter-terrorism officials.

The Iranian-American thought he was dealing with a member of a Mexican drug organization, according to documents. The United States will contact governments worldwide to brief them on an alleged Iranian plot to assassinate the Saudi ambassador in the United States, Attorney General Eric Holder said.

"One thing that we will be doing is getting in touch with other of our allies and nations around the world to make them aware of what it is that was thwarted here," he said.

Police in Boston arrest 129 in protest crackdown

BOSTON (AFP) - Police in Boston arrested 129 protesters yesterday, a police spokesman said, in one of the biggest crackdowns so far on the Occupy Wall Street movement sweeping the United States.

Boston Police Department spokesman Eddy Chrispin said "a majority" had been arrested for unlawful assembly when police converged on the crowd in the early hours of the morning.

"Everyone who was arrested opted to be arrested," Chrispin told AFP by telephone, after the protesters refused to obey a police request to disperse peacefully.

On its website, Occupy Boston said "hundreds of police officers in full riot gear" had "brutally attacked" its protesters along the Rose Kennedy Greenway, a string of parks named after the mother of late president John F. Kennedy.

Tents were destroyed and personal belongings thrown into the trash during the crackdown that began around 1:30 a.m. (0530 GMT).

"It's unacceptable," said one protester, Anastassia Baichorova, from neighboring Cambridge where Harvard University is located. "We have the freedom of assembly."

Photographs on the Occupy Boston website showed police in regular uniforms, without helmets or heavy protective clothing, rounding up protest-

ers and binding their hands with plastic handcuffs.

Some 700 police officers descended on the protesters, who numbered in the thousands, said Jake Wark, spokesman for Suffolk County district attorney (prosecutor) Daniel Conley.

"Because so many people were involved, they were brought to police stations across the city," Wark said.

"We have 18 that will be arraigned today at Boston municipal court," he added. "Another 35 or so will be split up as we review the charges. Many were bailed out last night from the police stations."

The Boston Globe newspaper quoted protesters as chanting: "The people united will never be defeated," "This is a peaceful protest" and "The whole world is watching."

One officer was punched in the face, but no protesters or police were injured, it quoted police as saying.

Chrispin said protesters were initially allowed by the city to settle into Dewey Square, an open downtown plaza, but then "they grew substantially in number and took over" adjoining green spaces and city streets.

Boston Mayor Thomas Menino defended the crackdown, telling the Globe: "I understand they have freedom of speech and freedom of expression, but we have a city to manage... Civil disobedience will not be tolerated."

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Palestinians: Israel to free Barghuti in Shalit deal

JERUSALEM (AFP) - Israel will free key Palestinian leader Marwan Barghuti under a prisoner deal in exchange for the release of captive soldier Gilad Shalit, a senior Palestinian official

told AFP yesterday.

The official confirmed that both Barghuti and Ahmed Saadat, the secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, were expected to be re-

leased under the deal.

Palestinian sources said Israel had also agreed to release around 1,000 prisoners in exchange for the soldier, in a deal which would be implemented later this week

The Ukraine jails ex-PM Tymoshenko for 7 years

KIEV (AFP) - A Ukrainian court yesterday jailed ex-prime minister Yulia Tymoshenko for seven years after convicting her of abusing power, enraging the West and jeopardizing Kiev's hopes of EU membership.

EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton said the verdict would have "profound implications" for the bloc's ties with the Ukraine, which had hoped this year to sign an Association Agreement in a key first step to membership.

The United States bitterly condemned "a politically motivated prosecution" while Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin expressed bewilderment at the severity of the sentence.

UN chief Ban Ki-moon said he "expects the judicial proceedings currently still ongoing to be conducted in a fair and impartial manner", his spokeswoman Vannina Mastracci said.

In apparent recognition of the potentially devastating consequences for the country, President Viktor Yanukovich insisted the decision was not final and that he understood the European Union's anxiety over the trial.

Judge Rodion Kireyev found Tymoshenko guilty of exceeding her authority while prime minister in 2009 by making the state energy company sign a 10-year gas import deal with Russia that was overly advantageous to Moscow.

"The court rules that Y.V.




Yulia Tymoshenko

Tymoshenko intentionally used her powers to criminal ends," Kireyev said in his judgement. "The court finds her guilty and sentences her to seven years in prison."

Kireyev said Tymoshenko sustained a loss to state gas firm Naftogaz of 1.5 billion hryvnia (\$190 million) by agreeing the 10-year contract and ordered her to pay back the money in full herself.




Tymoshenko, her hair plaited intricately around her head and wearing an immaculate beige dress, defiantly shouted "Glory to the Ukraine!" in response. We will fight and defend my good name in the European court. We have to be strong and defend the Ukraine from this authoritarianism."

She was later driven in a prison van back to the Lukyanovsky detention center, where she has been held since her arrest on August 5 for contempt of court.



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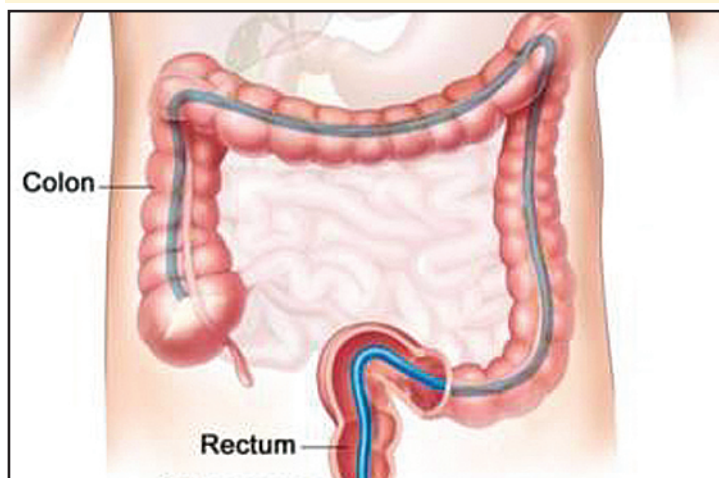
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Health & Living

Colon cancer



Colon cancer is cancer of the large intestine (colon), the lower part of your digestive system. Rectal cancer is cancer of the last several inches of the colon. Together, they're often referred to as colorectal cancers.

Most cases of colon cancer begin as small, noncancerous (benign) clumps of cells called adenomatous polyps. Over time some of these polyps become colon cancers.

Polyps may be small and produce few, if any, symptoms.

For this reason, doctors recommend regular screening tests to help prevent colon cancer by identifying polyps before they become colon cancer.

Signs and symptoms of colon cancer include:

-A change in your bowel habits, including diarrhea or constipation or a change in the

consistency of your stool

-Rectal bleeding or blood in your stool

-Persistent abdominal discomfort, such as cramps, gas or pain

-A feeling that your bowel doesn't empty completely

-Weakness or fatigue

-Unexplained weight loss

Many people with colon cancer experience no symptoms in the early stages of the disease.

When symptoms appear, they'll likely vary, depending on the cancer's size and location in your large intestine.

If you notice any symptoms of colon cancer, such as blood in your stool or a persistent change in bowel habits, make an appointment with your doctor.

Talk to your doctor about when you should begin screen-

ing for colon cancer.

In most cases, it's not clear what causes colon cancer. Doctors know that colon cancer occurs when healthy cells in the colon become altered. Healthy cells grow and divide in an orderly way to keep your body functioning normally. But sometimes this growth gets out of control — cells continue dividing even when new cells aren't needed. In the colon and rectum, this exaggerated growth may cause precancerous cells to form in the lining of your intestine. Over a long period of time — spanning up to several years — some of these areas of abnormal cells may become cancerous.

A Home Remedy
Baking Soda for whiter teeth

Stains on your teeth occur in the filmy layer that develops from the food and beverages that you intake. The best way to get rid of this layer and remove surface stains is to brush them away. Baking soda is a gentle abrasive that can work away the filmy layer and eliminate stains.

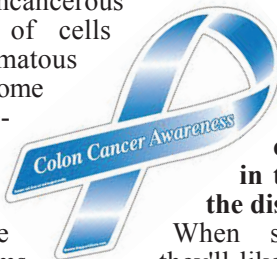
If you want to use baking soda to remove stains, use the following method:

- Get your toothbrush wet.
- Dip it into a small amount of baking soda.
- Use a circular motion to scrub the front surfaces of your teeth for at least two minutes.
- Rinse with clean water.

Baking soda is safe to swallow, but it is important not to use it every day or as a long term solution to whitening teeth since it is quite abrasive and can damage the enamel.



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Sci-Tech

Looking on bright side may not be such a bright idea

PARIS (AFP) - If you are always seeing the light at the end of the tunnel, be warned - it could be an oncoming train.

So says a study published in Nature Neuroscience which concludes that our well-known penchant for donning rose-tinted glasses may be a failure to store risk awareness in a key part of the brain.

Tali Sharot, a professor at University College London, was intrigued as to why so many people -- even when facing long odds or bleak prospects -- remain stubbornly, even pathologically, optimistic.

To learn more, 19 volunteers were asked to take part in an experiment.

Sharot and colleagues monitored subjects in a functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) scanner as they were confronted with life situations ranging from unpleasant to catastrophic.

Having their car stolen, getting fired from their job, developing Parkinson's disease or cancer were among 80 scenarios evoked. After each hypothetical disaster, the volunteers were asked to estimate the odds of the misfortune happening to them. While still in the scanner, they were then informed of the true average probability of the risk.

Sometime later, the volunteers once again quantified the odds for personally experiencing each scenario.

The researchers found that the volunteers updated their initial estimates -- but only



when the true figures were less gloomy.

If, for example, they had predicted a 40 percent chance of contracting cancer but the average likelihood turned out to be 30 percent, they were far more likely to adjust their estimate sharply downward.

But if the odds were worse than originally thought, the volunteers simply ignored the true statistics.

"Our study suggests that we pick and choose the information that we listen too," said Sharot. "The more optimistic we are, the less likely we are to be influenced by negative information about the future," said Sharot.

Why so?

In the brain scans, all participants showed increased activity in their frontal lobes -- which is strongly associated with emotional control -- whenever the real numbers were better than expected.

The activity indicated that the new information was being processed and stored.

But when the news was more dire than the first

guesstimate, respondents who had rated highest for "optimism" in a personality test, taken beforehand, showed the least activity in their frontal lobe.

Sharot said the work showed that unbridled optimism had unperceived risks.

"Seeing the glass as half full rather than half empty can be a positive thing -- it can lower stress and anxiety, and be good for our health and well-being," she said.

Many experts, she pointed out, believe that the financial crisis that began in the fall of 2008 was in large part caused by wishful thinking about rising property values and the ability to play down or dismiss levels of debt.

Blackberry glitches continue for second day

Blackberry users across much of the globe experienced outages in key functions for a second straight day Tuesday, despite maker Research In Motion having said Monday that it had fixed the problem.

The glitches that impaired messaging, emails and Internet browsing in Europe, the Middle East and Africa spread to India and South America on Tuesday, Canada-based Research In Motion confirmed.

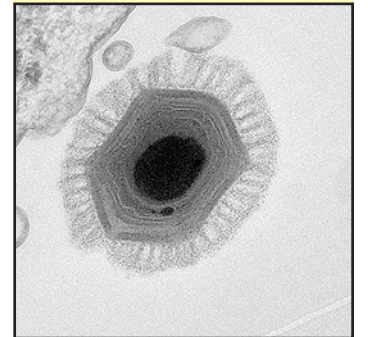
Many users in Europe, the Middle East and Africa reported Monday not being able to receive or send email, use instant messaging or browse the Internet.

Research In Motion said late Monday that all services had been restored to users. The company had not said what caused the problem.

Then on Tuesday, RIM's customers began posting messages online saying Blackberry services were down again.

RIM has struggled this year with weaker sales of the BlackBerry smartphone against rivals like Apple's iPhone, various models from HTC, and other handsets running Google's Android software.

Mega beats Mimi for world's biggest virus



This undated handout picture released by the Structural and Genomic Information Institut (IGS) of France's National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) and taken through an electronic microscopy shows the genome of Megavirus chilensis, a virus found in the sea off Chile.

AFP/Photo

PARIS (AFP) - A virus found in the sea off Chile is the biggest in the world, harbouring more than 1,000 genes, surprised scientists reported.

The genome of Megavirus chilensis is 6.5 percent bigger than the DNA code of the previous virus record-holder, Mimivirus, isolated in 2003.

Viruses differ from bacteria in that they are usually far smaller and cannot reproduce on their own, needing to penetrate a host cell in which to replicate.

But M. chilensis is such a giant that it surpasses many bacteria in size and is genetically the most complex DNA virus ever described.

It was taken from sea water sample closed to the shore of Las Cruces, Chile. Its host organism is unknown.

DNA viruses include pox viruses and herpes viruses, but M. chilensis "doesn't seem to be harmful for humans," said Jean-Michel Claverie, of France's National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS).

The study appears in a US journal, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS).

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STORY TIME

ACROSS

1. Pen top
4. Practice with the champ
8. Herringlike fish
13. "A Corinthian, ___ of mettle" ("Henry IV")
15. Vamp's shoe
16. Choice part
17. Cattle call offering
18. "Come Back to ___"
19. Bridal path
20. Grimm tale
23. Charge per unit
24. This has one
25. Works the docks
28. Greek letters
31. School subj.
34. Carol opening
36. Wings
38. Mouths: prefix
40. Grimm tale
43. Hosp. caregivers
44. Ruin one's garment
45. Cleaned a floppy disk
46. Opposite of 'neath
48. Grand tour need
50. Maine college town
51. Summer, in Montreal
53. Kind
55. Grimm tale
63. Does a collie's job
64. Singular person
65. He created Perry and Della
66. Baxter and Boleyn
67. Burns's

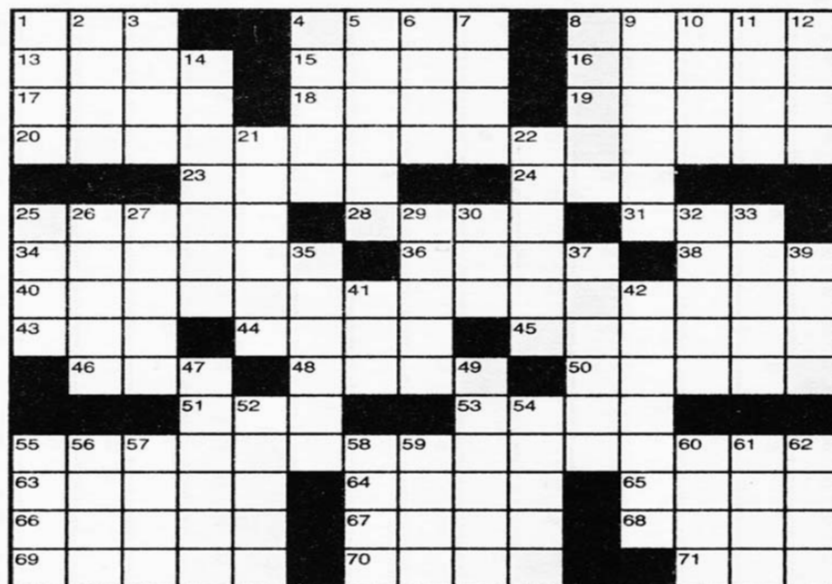
- hillside
68. Nuremberg negative
69. River in France
70. Matched batches
71. But, to Cato

DOWN

1. "The Alienist" author Caleb
2. Baseball slugger Moises
3. Where to find a date?
4. Fish used as bait
5. Ship's financial officer
6. Came down
7. Actor Santoni
8. Ushers
9. Puckered fabric

10. Play against the odds
11. King in Germanic mythology
12. Typical female gymnast
14. Sadden
21. A movable feast
22. "Gil Blas" author
25. "Oz" star Bert
26. Bell town
27. Compact
29. Passes
30. Like Farmer MacDonald
32. Words before fast or hot
33. Like electric cars
35. Convenience store closing time, once
37. Scoreboard info

39. Italian statesman Moro
41. Singer DiFranco
42. Like some ramparts
47. More embarrassed
49. ___ as a pin
52. Cup: Fr.
54. Hideous creatures
55. Cambodian's neighbor
56. Biddies
57. Irish river
58. Corny cores
59. Regarding
60. Raw metals
61. Sculptor Nadelman
62. Fax machine button



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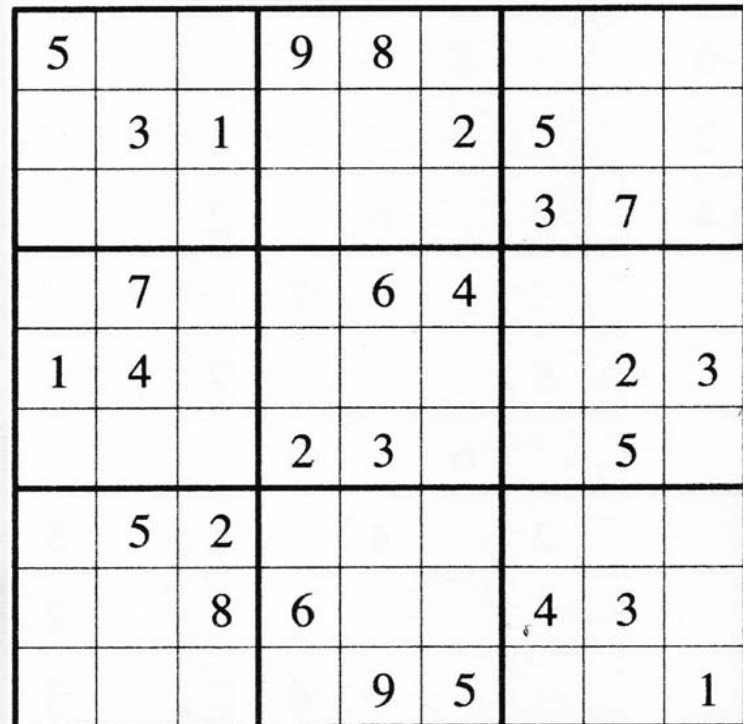
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

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5	8	7	2	9	8	1	6	
4	9	6	8	1	7	2	5	3
7	5	1	8	2	9	6	3	4
8	2	9	6	4	8	5	7	1
6	1	8	7	9	5	3	2	4
2	4	8	9	5	1	6	3	7
8	6	5	2	7	1	3	9	4
9	7	1	3	8	6	2	4	5

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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Finance

Slovak opposition ready to vote for EFSF, urges election

BRATISLAVA (AFP) - Slovakia's leftist opposition Smer-SD said yesterday it was ready to team up with the outgoing government to vote in favour of the eurozone European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF) rescue fund in exchange for a snap election.

"Smer is ready to back the EFSF in exchange for a deal on snap election," Smer lawmaker Jan Pociatek said shortly after the centre-right coalition failed to push the EFSF through parliament, adding a repeat vote could take place this week.

The coalition crumbled as Prime Minister Iveta Radicova tied the vote on a revamp of the 440-billion-euro

(\$600 billion) bailout fund to a confidence motion in her government but failed to secure key backing from a junior coalition partner.

Smer chairman and former prime minister Robert Fico said his party, which did not take part in the voting to help to sink the government, was ready for talks.

"For Smer-SD, the ratification of the EFSF is a priority. Slovakia has to ratify the EFSF, without the mechanism the situation can get worse," he said.

Slovakia was the last eurozone country to vote on the revamp after the remaining 16 euro states ratified it.

In the parliamentary de-

bate prior to the vote, Finance Minister Ivan Miklos also said he expected "the EFSF to be approved this week".

Eurozone leaders agreed in July to boost the EFSF's powers in the hope of stemming the fallout from the eurozone's deepening sovereign debt crisis which now threatens the euro project, the bloc's banking system and the economy.

The changes are key for going ahead with a second bailout for Greece and the emergency recapitalisation of banks.

The EFSF was set up after Greece was first bailed out to save it from default in May 2010.

Panetta: Budget cuts will mean 'smaller' US military

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US defense budget cuts will require a "smaller" US ground force and "hard choices" about how to preserve American military power with less money, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta said yesterday.

In a speech looking at budget pressures facing the Pentagon, Panetta said the US military would need to adjust its strategy and plan for a leaner, more agile force after massive ground wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"We will have to look at force structure -- and the size of the ground forces after Iraq and Afghanistan -- recognizing that a smaller, highly capable and ready force is preferable to a larger, hollow force," Panetta said at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington.

But Panetta provided no de-

tails in his speech about how much the ground force might have to be scaled back or what modernization plans would have to be sacrificed.

He said any cutback in ground forces would have to be "limited" and that the American military still had to be able to fight more than one war -- a longstanding Pentagon doctrine.

"While some limited reductions can take place, I must be able to maintain a sufficient force to confront the potential of having to fight in more than one area," he said.

The military faces about \$450 billion in cuts over the next decade as the US government tries to tackle a growing deficit and debt.

The US Army is already bracing for downsizing plans.

Protesters in New York march to billionaires' homes

NEW YORK CITY (AFP) - Up to 500 people marched up Manhattan yesterday to take the Occupy Wall Street protest literally to the doorsteps of some of the richest tycoons in the United States.

Galvanized by an overnight crackdown on protesters in

Boston, the marchers traversed the Upper East Side along a route that took them past the homes of media mogul Rupert Murdoch and conservative industrialist David Koch.

"JPMorgan, you're no good! People need a Robin Hood!" some chanted outside

the luxury apartment block that is home to JP Morgan Chase chief executive Jamie Dimon.

Also on the itinerary was the home of New York's wealthy mayor Michael Bloomberg, who pledged Monday to let protesters stay at Zuccotti Park in lower Manhattan's financial district so long as they respect the law.

Making rich Americans pay more tax is a core demand of Occupy Wall Street, its left-wing and labor union supporters, and its many offshoots that have sprung up throughout in the United States in recent weeks.

Oil prices rise further, OPEC chief rules out new recession

LONDON (AFP) - Oil prices rose yesterday before a key Slovakia vote on the eurozone bailout fund and as the head of OPEC insisted the market was well supplied with crude oil and that the world was not set for recession.

The optimism voiced by OPEC Secretary General Abdullah El-Badri came despite the cartel cutting its world demand forecasts for a third month running on uncertainty in the global economy and weaker oil demand from China and India.

In late London trade, Brent

North Sea crude for delivery in November jumped \$1.61 to \$110.56 a barrel, reversing losses early Tuesday. New York's main contract, light sweet crude for November, gained 68 cents to \$86.09 a barrel.

Oil futures had rallied sharply on Monday, after Germany and France agreed over the weekend to deliver a comprehensive solution to the eurozone public debt crisis within weeks.

Daily Exchange Rates				
Current as of: 10/11/2011	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	0.98	1.00	1.002
Canada	CAD	1.710	1.730	1.750
Britain	GBP	2.720	2.770	2.830
Switzerland	CHF	1.9562	1.9634	1.9714
Netherlands	EUR	2.4016	2.4235	2.4478
Sweden	SEK	0.2559	0.2631	0.2711
Denmark	DKK	0.3160	0.3232	0.3312
Norway	NOK	0.3018	0.3090	0.3170
Japan	JPY	230.34	232.45	234.78
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OMOO	ASEA	LORRE
SAND	SCAR	EDSEL
THEART	OF	THEDEAL
EST	ETE	
BRAT	STEN	DART
DRAMA	ERN	MEA
RECORDING	ARTIST	
EVE	ELS	EASES
WEDS	BEER	COST
TAI	EAT	
THEARTFUL	DODGER	
RILLE	AVID	ARTE
ISLET	REEL	MATA
STARE	MADE	EYED



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Focus on timeline as Jackson doctor trial resumes



The trial of Michael Jackson's doctor Conrad Murray enters a third week, with the spotlight on alleged inconsistencies in the exact timeline of the star's final hours and minutes.

After a three-day weekend including a US public holiday, the manslaughter trial resumes hearing testimony on a gripping police interview with doctor Conrad Murray two days after the King of Pop's death on June 25, 2009.

Last Friday a hushed courtroom heard as Murray recounted his efforts to help Jackson sleep at his plush mansion in Los Angeles, where the star was rehearsing for a planned series of comeback shows in London.

Murray is accused of involuntary manslaughter by giving Jackson an overdose of propofol, a powerful sedative. His lawyers claim Jackson was a desperate addict who administered a fatal dose himself while Murray was out of the room.

But prosecutors will highlight alleged inconsistencies,

or at least gray areas, in the doctor's account -- notably from 10:40 am until 12:20 pm that day -- when paramedics were called to find the star apparently already dead.

Questions will also focus on a series of calls to and from Murray's phone during the missing hour, including one from a female friend who heard noises in the background as the doctor apparently became distracted.

In the police interview played in court Friday -- the end of which is expected to be heard this week -- Murray claimed he had begun trying to wean the singer off a drug which he "loved" but that killed him.

Jackson had returned to his Holmby Hills mansion from a rehearsal shortly after midnight, and Murray -- who spent most nights there caring for the star -- began with 2 mg of lorazepam after a valium pill had no effect.

Over the next six or seven hours Murray gave him a series of injections, but by early morning Jackson was still wide awake and getting desperate.

Shortly after 10:00 am, and by this time "really complaining that he cannot sleep," Jackson began asking for his "milk" -- propofol, which Jackson had taken on a nightly basis for two months until a few days before his death.

Australia condemns Iranian actress lashing sentence

SYDNEY (AFP) - Canberra urged Iran to respect the human rights of its citizens Tuesday after an actress in the country was sentenced to 90 lashes for appearing in an Australian film with her head uncovered and shaven.

Australia's Foreign Minister Kevin Rudd expressed "deep concern" at reports that Marzieh Vafamehr had been sentenced to a year in prison and the lashes for her role in the film "My Tehran for Sale".

"The Australian government urges Iran to protect the rights of all Iranians and foreign citizens."

A report of Vafamehr's sentence appeared on the Iranian opposition website Kalameh.com on Sunday, also saying that her lawyer was lodging an appeal. Iran's Fars news agency said the film had not been approved for distribution in the country and was being distributed there illegally.

Shot entirely in Tehran and directed by Iranian-Australian Granaz Moussavi, the 2008 film tells the story of a young actress in Iran's capital whose work is banned by the authorities.

Adelaide-based production company Cyan Films said the low-budget, independent movie was never intended for release in Iran and its dissemination on Tehran's black mar-

ket was "totally outside the control" of the company.

"My Tehran for Sale" premiered at the 2009 Adelaide Film Festival and has been

screened at other events including the Rotterdam Film Festival and the Global Lens program at New York's Museum of Modern Art.

7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

<p>EGG DISHES</p> <p>*2 eggs sunny side up with ham & cheese</p> <p>*Scrambled with ham, cheese, onions, green pepper, tomato, mushroom</p> <p>*Plain omelettes with ham, cheese, onion, green pepper, tomato, mushroom</p> <p>All egg dishes are served with a choice of : white or whole wheat baguette or sliced toasted bread.</p> <p>*PASTECCHI HORNA</p> <p>*CRÊPES</p> <p>*SWEET CRÊPES</p> <p>*BAGEL with cream cheese, smoked salmon, boiled egg</p>	<p>LOCAL BREAKFAST</p> <p>*Pan grandi (di rama) or baguette</p> <p>*KERRIE-KERRIE (FISH)</p> <p>*CONCH</p> <p>*FISH EGG</p> <p>*SHRIMPS</p> <p>*FISH FILLET</p> <p>*FISH CAKE</p> <p>*CHICKEN SOUP</p> <p>*FRUIT SALAD & YOGHURT</p> <p>* HOT BEVERAGES</p> <p>* COLD BEVERAGES</p>
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Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

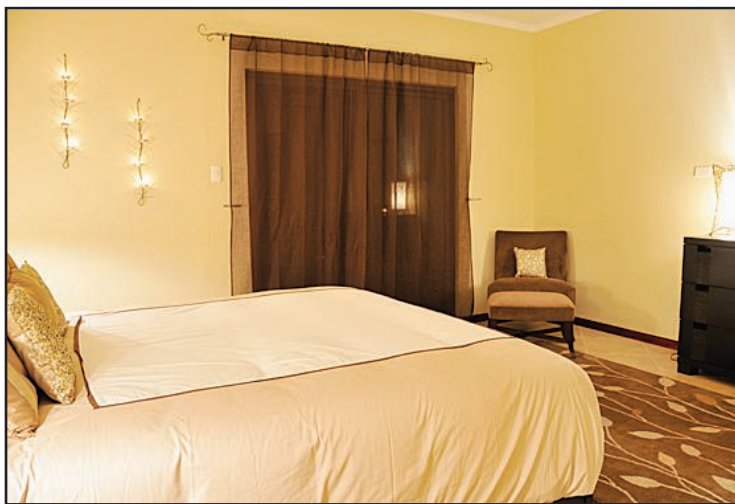
"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Ma-lone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers,

airline pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for

homes come with cable TV, high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee.



parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All

Concierge services to arrange rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



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FRANKFURT (AFP) - The world's biggest book fair, due to open this week, wants to put paid to fears for the survival of the book in its traditional, bound form in the face of its digital rival's growing popularity. While electronic books and other gadgets have been all the talk of the Frankfurt Book Fair in recent years, industry movers and shakers say the future of ebooks and printed books is safe. The challenges thrown up by the upheaval in the book world will be a central theme at the fair, including for authors who once just had to deal with a publisher but must now also negotiate TV, film and gaming rights to their works. Iceland, as guest of honour, will shine a spotlight on its literature, past and present, during the showcase of some 7,500 exhibitors which opens to industry insiders today and to the public on Saturday.

Football: Sweden down Dutch to seal Euro 2012 ticket



STOCKHOLM (AFP) - Sweden secured automatic qualification for the Euro 2012 finals with a nervy 3-2 win over Holland here on Tuesday.

With the Dutch already assured of top spot in Group E the pressure was on Sweden to stop the Oranje's unbeaten romp to next year's championship in Ukraine and Poland

to emerge as the best of all the other second-placed teams and so avoid the play-offs.

Kim Kallstrom, Lyon's left-footed midfielder, put the Scandinavians into a 14th minute lead, defeating Dutch keeper Michel Vorm from a direct free kick awarded after defender Gregory van der Wiel fouled Johan Elmander.

Sweden's keeper Andreas Isaksson kept the hosts' on a level footing when denying Robin van Persie as half time approached.

Klaas-Jan Huntelaar - who had scored the only goal of the game in Friday's win over Moldova - put the 1988 European champions back level in the 23rd minute.

that was the Schalke forward's 12th goal of the qualifying campaign.

Liverpool's Dirk Kuyt put

the Netherlands into a 50th minute lead, only for the Swedes to hit back immediately with two goals in the space of a minute.

First Sebastian Larsson scored from the spot after a penalty awarded following a handball by Joris Mathijsen, then seconds later Ola Toivonen put them back in front.

That frenetic passage of play set up an anxious nervy last half an hour for the Swedes with automatic qualification as the best runners-up dangling in front of them.

They held their nerve, despite suffering from the absence of striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic, to lift them up to 19 points, with Holland, falling to their first defeat since their World Cup final loss to Spain in South Africa last year, on 24.

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Tennis: Frustrated Roddick wins, Fish out in Shanghai



Andy Roddick of the US celebrates after defeating Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria.

SHANGHAI (AFP) - Andy Roddick refocused after losing his cool Tuesday to reach the third round of the Shanghai Masters with a 7-6 (7/3), 7-5 win as top American Mardy Fish crashed out to Australian teen Bernard Tomic.

Tenth seed Roddick won a first set tie-break against Bulgaria's Grigor Dimitrov and sealed victory after clinching a topsy-turvy second set that contained five breaks of serve.

After Dimitrov broke Roddick in the ninth game of the second set to lead 5-4, the American smashed his bag repeatedly in frustration but immediately broke back to level at 5-5, saving a set point.

In the late match at the Qi Zhong stadium, 18-year-old Tomic rallied from a set down to beat fifth seed Fish 4-6, 6-1, 6-4 to join Roddick in the third round.

The 49th-ranked Australian, who lost to ninth-ranked Fish last week at the Japan Open, had only won one match previously against top 10 players but levelled with two breaks in the second set

and a single break in the ninth game of the decider earned him the win.

Also in second round action, Swiss 13th seed Stanislas Wawrinka beat America's Donald Young 6-7 (5/7), 7-6 (7/2), 6-2 and France's Gilles Simon, seeded eighth, eased past Spain's Albert Montanes 6-1, 6-1.

Earlier, Germany's Florian Mayer, the 15th seed, beat former world number three David Nalbandian 6-3, 6-4 to reach the third round and seventh seed Nicolas Almagro defeated Spanish compatriot Tommy Robredo 7-5, 6-3.

In first round clashes, Serbian ninth seed Janko Tipsarevic crashed out to Feliciano Lopez of Spain 6-7 (2/7), 6-7 (3/7), dealing a heavy blow to his hopes of reaching the ATP World Tour Finals.

Tipsarevic won his first ATP title earlier this month at the Malaysian Open but lost in the first round of last week's Japan Open.

Tipsarevic's Serbian compatriot Viktor Troicki, seeded 11, also lost, beaten in straight sets by America's Ryan Harrison.

Austrian 14th seed Jurgen Melzer, who defeated Rafael Nadal to reach the quarter-finals in Shanghai last year, beat Croatia's Ivan Ljubicic and Alexandr Dolgoplov, seeded 12, beat Lukasz Kubot of Poland.

Japan's Kei Nishikori overcame a disastrous start against Robin Haase to defeat the Dutchman 0-6, 7-5, 7-6 (7/5).

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Baseball: Pujols' Cardinals crush Brewers



Albert Pujols #5 of the St. Louis Cardinals slides safely into home plate against Marco Estrada #41 of the Milwaukee Brewers on a wild pitch by Estrada in the top of the fifth inning during Game Two.

MILWAUKEE (AFP) - Albert Pujols put on a hitting display Monday with a home run and five RBIs as the St. Louis Cardinals crushed the Milwaukee Brewers 12-3 in game two of their semi-final playoff series.

Pujols went four-for-five with three doubles for the Cardinals who rebounded from a 9-6 loss on Sunday to level the National League series at 1-1.

"When they come, they come in bunches," said Pujols. "My main job is to try and get a good pitch to hit. Once in a while when you look for your pitches you are going to hit one out of the ballpark and today they came in bunches."

Pujols smashed a two-run

homer in the first inning and a two-run double in the third. He added an RBI double in the fifth and another double in the seventh.

The series now shifts to St. Louis, where Cardinals starting pitcher Chris Carpenter will face Brewers right-hander Yovani Gallardo on Wednesday.

Pujols, who can become a free agent after the World Series, was one-for-four in the game one loss.

He came into Monday's contest with only one RBI in St. Louis' first half-dozen playoff games.

"You learn from your mistakes," Pujols said.

But Brewers manager wasn't taking Pujols lightly heading into the series which will decide who goes to the World Series.

"The last time we saw them at their place he was swinging the bat just like this," Brewers manager Ron Roenicke said. "You can't make mistakes to him. You have to hit spots. You have to keep it down in the zone. He doesn't miss too many mistakes."

St. Louis starting pitcher Edwin Jackson went 4 1/3 innings, giving up one home run. Lance Lynn came on in relief and got credit for the win.

Milwaukee starter Shaun Marcum stumbled early, giving up five runs on seven hits in four innings and took the loss.

Things really fell apart for Milwaukee in the seventh when the Cards scored four runs. Pujols led off with a double and Matt Holliday, Yadier Molina, David Freese and Nick Punto smacked RBI singles.

Roenicke added that the pitchers didn't get much help from the fielders.

Baseball: Cruz belts walkoff grand slam for Rangers



Nelson Cruz #17 of the Texas Rangers hugs David Murphy #7 after hitting a walk off grand slam home run to win Game Two

DALLAS (AFP) - Nelson Cruz blasted the first game-winning grand slam in Major League Baseball playoff history, lifting Texas to a 7-3 win over Detroit for a 2-0 lead in their second round playoff series.

Cruz hit a towering homer into the left field stands with no outs in the bottom of the 11th inning Monday after blasting a game-tying home run four innings earlier. His

walkoff grand slam came off Tigers pitcher Ryan Perry.

Cruz's grand slam sent the crowd of 51,227 into a frenzy as his teammates mobbed him during a wild celebration at home plate.

"The first two pitches I was too aggressive. I hit the ball, foul ball, foul ball," said Cruz. "After that, I told myself just slow down and try to hit a fly ball to the outfield."

Cruz also homered in Texas' game one 3-2 victory. Cruz got a helping hand Monday from the Rangers' relief pitchers as the group combined to pitch 8 1/3 scoreless innings.

Cruz is four-for-seven with three home runs in the series after struggling in the opening round of the postseason against Tampa Bay, when he had only a single in 15 plate appearances.

Detroit's Ryan Raburn hit a three-run homer in the third to give the Tigers the lead, but the American League Central champs didn't get another run.



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NBA cancels first two weeks of regular season

NEW YORK (AFP) - NBA commissioner David Stern has cancelled the first two weeks of the 2011-12 regular season after several hours of meetings failed to result in a new labour deal with players.

Stern said he is cancelling 100 scheduled regular season games through November 14 after the two sides in the contract dispute met for seven hours on Monday.

Stern said the latest effort to end the lockout of the players and begin the season on time failed because the owners and players are far apart on a number of key questions.

"We just have a gulf that separates us," Stern said.

All of the NBA's 114 pre-season games have already been wiped out by the dispute.

No new talks have been scheduled but owners and players said they plan to keep in touch.

"I started out by saying I'm sorry to report, and I'm sad to report, that we've cancelled the first two weeks," Stern said.

Stern, deputy commissioner Adam Silver, owners Peter Holt of San Antonio, Glen Taylor of Minnesota and James Dolan of New York, and senior vice president and deputy general counsel Dan Rube represented the owners in talks on Monday.

They met with union executive director Billy Hunter, president Derek Fisher of the Los Angeles Lakers and vice president Maurice Evans of the Washington Wizards, and lawyers Jeffrey Kessler and Ron Klempner.

There is still three weeks before the start of the regular season, so the two sides could still reach a deal in time or possibly end up in court.

Each has accused the other of unfair labour practices which the National Labor Relations Board is looking into. The owners also filed a lawsuit in US federal court against the players' union.

Union brass have so far decided not to decertify like their

counterparts with the National Football League, although the basketball players say they haven't ruled out that option.

The owners locked out the players on July 1 when they failed to reach a deal before the expiration of the old collective bargaining agreement. The NBA's opening night was scheduled for November 1.

Team owners and players have been haggling over how to divide \$3.8 billion in annual revenues and also over salary cap issues.

The main stumbling block has been the issue of how to share basketball-related income. The owners want a 50-50 share of revenues while the players refuse to go below 53 percent.

The gap in their positions has been so wide it could now jeopardize the entire 2011-2012 campaign, says Fisher.

"This is not where we choose to be," Fisher said. "We're not at a place where a fair deal can be reached with the NBA."

Earlier this year, owners angered the players with a proposal that called for salary rollbacks, shorter contracts and a hard salary cap of \$45 million.

The only previous NBA season to be shortened because of money disputes was in 1998-99, when the season was cut to 50 games.

Only once in North American sports history has an entire season been lost to players and team owners being unable to agree upon financial terms, when the National Hockey League cancelled its 2004-2005 campaign.

NBA players reacted to the news with disappointment and expressed sympathy for the stadium workers who will lose their jobs.

Not all players seemed to be paying attention Monday night as about an hour after the news broke, Fishers' teammate Lamar Odom tweeted on his page, "Time to tune in2 @KimKardashian's #KimK-Wedding part 2! It is on E!"

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MLB playoff schedule

American League

DETROIT V TEXAS

Rangers 3, Detroit 2 (Rangers lead 1-0)

Tigers @ Rangers (PPD)

Texas 7, Detroit 3

(Rangers lead 2-0)

Tue - Oct 11: Texas @ Detroit

Wed - Oct 12: Texas @ Detroit

Thu - Oct 13: Texas @ Detroit

Sat - Oct 15: Detroit @ Texas

Sun - Oct 16: Detroit @ Texas

National League

ST LOUIS V MILWAUKEE

Milwaukee 9, Cardinals 6

(Brewers lead 1-0)

Cardinals 12, Milwaukee 3

(Tie 1-1)

Wed - Oct 12: Milwaukee @ St. Louis

Thu - Oct 13: Milwaukee @ St. Louis

Fri - Oct 14: Milwaukee @ St. Louis

Sun - Oct 16: Cardinals @ Milwaukee

Mon - Oct 17: Cardinals @ Milwaukee

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